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Judge Roberts' Confirmation Hearings

by
Tom Holbrook

“Judge Roberts, in this memo from 1983 I need to know why you said that the memo you wrote two years earlier was *Stari Deciris* and not still open to contention or discussion, and directly contradicted the memo of two years later when you were involved with *Jones vs. Smith*? Do you still think the same as you did back then?”

“Well Senator, as I told you yesterday, that was 22 years ago and I was only 28 years old. I was referring to *Cabbages vs. Kings* in that memo and it wasn't meant to depict what you inferred from your reading of the second memo. I clearly said that my third memo several months later explained everything in a more specific way, especially as the ruling was applied in *Federation vs. Klingon*. Besides there is a good chance that the particular case in question will come before the Supreme Court in the future and I don't want to make promises as to how I will decide on any case without first reviewing it from all angles and then conferring with the other Justices before making a final decision.”

Man, oh man, oh man... what a memory this nominee has about the cases he has been involved with in the past. Messrs. Kennedy, Schumer, Leahy, Durbin, Feinstein and Feingold are doing their best to get him to talk about things he shouldn't but he's holding out like a piece of granite. But can you believe that memory. Please don't ask me what I was writing 20 years ago... Lord don't even ask me what I had for breakfast two days ago.

I can't believe the mind on Judge John Roberts and how he is able to categorize and compartmentalize the decisions he's made, the precedents he's researched, and the briefs he's written. According to those on the Republican side of the aisle he is the best judicial nominee that has ever been approached by the Judicial Committee of the Senate. On some of the faces of the Democrat inquisitors I see something that looks like a true liking for Roberts, but they are so bound by the dogma preached by their party, i.e., “nothing good can come out of the White House nominations,” they have to come down extra hard on him. As I said earlier, however, he is not wilting under the biased pressure to which he is being subjected.

Those I've talked to around me feel that Judge Roberts is an okay individual and should be confirmed, *and* it's almost a shoo-in that he will be. Of course, in Washington nothing is to be taken for granted until it happens... and even then you let it sit for three days and harden before you can declare it a *fait accompli*. From everything I've seen Judge Roberts is overwhelmingly qualified for the position and will do us all proud as the 19th Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. We must all remember, however, that he could turn out to be another Justice like Bush 41's nominee David Souter, Ford's nominee John Paul Stevens, or Reagans' nominee Sandra Day O'Connor. Let's pray that won't happen.

Of course, shortly down the road we can expect the real fight when the President's replacement for Justice Sandra Day O'Connor takes the witness stand. I'm afraid that nominee's sailing will not be as smooth as it has been for Judge Roberts. President Bush may pull another surprise, however, and nominate someone like Roberts from whom no one can dig any dirt. We'll see.

* Things in Louisiana seem to be cleaning up nicely now that the water has been brought under control. Many more millions of gallons of water need to be dispersed but at least no more is coming in. The shakeout from this debacle will be haunting us for months to come so don't grow too complacent. I'm wondering why Mike Brown's head has been the only one to roll in this mess. Do not be surprised if Louisiana Gov. Blanco, New Orleans' Mayor Nagin and Police Chief Compass will receive a pass on their ineptness in this whole situation. It would be politically incorrect to take shots at them, even if they are deserved. Chief Compass said on the 12th that 400 of his 1,750 police force are still missing... whereabouts unknown. Let's hope they are not some of the victims of the water.

Thank goodness for the thousands of volunteers who are heading in droves to Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana to help with the clean up and care for the displaced residents. We still hear tales of the idiots who ruled the night down there and the corrupt policemen who chose to join the gangs in looting and skullduggery that's been running rampant. Thankfully, the good guys still outnumber the bad guys and peace will be restored sooner than later. There must be a complete shakeup in the New Orleans Police Dept., however, and competent, reliable individuals put in positions of authority if there is to be bigger and better New Orleans rising from the mud and ashes.

It is a good chance that more deaths will be reported in Miss and Ala than will the case in Louisiana. That is tragic for those two states but a blessing for Louisiana considering the projections that had been made. Let's continue to pray for everyone in the South that cleanup and re-building will go smoothly and that no other hurricanes will be forthcoming in that area throughout the rest of the season.

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